

# Weekly One Liners 16th March to 22nd March 2020

## Most Important Current Affairs of March

### Prime Minister's address to the nation on combating COVID-19

As the whole world is fighting against the **COVID-19 pandemic**, Prime Minister of India **Narendra Modi** addressed his countrymen and made an appeal to all Indians to stay indoors as much as possible to stop the outspread of COVID-19 in India. Here are some key takeaways from his speech:

- He stated a mantra '**Hum Swasth, toh Jag Swasth**' that is the world will be healthy, if we stay healthy. He appealed to the people of India to stay away from crowds and gatherings, to avoid leaving our homes. This is called as '**Social Distancing**' which can play a critical role in these times of the global corona pandemic.
- He requested all the Indians to not step-out of our homes for the next few weeks, until and unless it is absolutely necessary.
- He also stated a term during his address to the nation i.e. "**People's curfew**" which means a curfew imposed for the people, by the people, on the people themselves. The "People's curfew" will be imposed on 22nd March 2020. He also requested the youth of India and the organizations like NCC, NSS, civil society to spread awareness about this people's curfew over the next 2 days.
- He also announced that the government of India has decided to set up a **COVID-19 Economic Response Task Force**, to be headed by the Finance Minister of India. Formation of Economic Response Task Force will ensure that all measures are being taken to reduce the economic difficulties and are effectively implemented.

### RBI to infuse Rs 30,000 crore to boost liquidity

The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** will infuse liquidity of **Rs 30,000 crore** to maintain financial stability in the Indian economy. RBI has taken this decision to boost liquidity in order to ensure that all market segments function normally with adequate liquidity and turnover, as certain financial market segments are facing **stress** due to **COVID-19 outbreak**.

The Reserve Bank will infuse liquidity by purchasing of Government securities under **Open Market Operations (OMOs)** for a total amount of Rs 30,000 crores. The amount will be infused in two tranches of Rs 15,000 crores each in the month of March 2020.

### RBI lowers single & group borrower exposure limit for UCBs

The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has revised the **single borrower** and **group exposure limit** for **Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs)**. The exposure limit for Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs) has been lowered to **reduce the concentration risks** originating from **large loans**. It has been revised in the following manner:

- RBI has lowered the **single borrower exposure limit** for urban cooperative banks (UCBs) to **15% of tier I capital**. This limit was earlier 15% of tier I and tier II capital.
- RBI has lowered the **group of borrowers exposure limit** for urban cooperative banks (UCBs) to **25% of tier I capital**. This limit was earlier 40% of tier I and tier II capital.

According to the RBI, the existing exposures limits for single and group borrowers should be revised by the banks as per the new exposure limits by **31 March 2023**. The new limits will also apply to all fresh loans. RBI also stated that the UCBs should have at least 50% of their aggregate loans and advances of not more than Rs 25 lakh or 0.2% of their tier I capital, whichever is higher, up to a maximum of Rs 1 crore, per borrower. While those UCBs which do not align with above conditions at present should comply with these norms by **31 March 2024**.

RBI has decided to increase the **Priority Sector Lending (PSL)** target for UCBs from 40% to **75%** of the **Adjusted Net Bank Credit (ANBC)**, or **Credit Equivalent Amount of Off-Balance Sheet Exposure (CEOBSE)**. These norms will also have to be fulfilled by 31 March 2024.

TEST SERIES

**Bilingual**

Video Solutions

**SBI CLERK  
MAINS**

**25+ TOTAL TESTS | eBOOKS**

## India ranked 12th globally in 'Women On Board 2020' study

India has been ranked **12th** in the world as per study titled '**Women On Board 2020**'. The list was **topped** by **Norway** with 40.72% women on board. A study on 'Women On Board 2020' has been done jointly by global recruitment tendering platforms **MyHiringClub** and **Sarkari-Naukri**. The 7824 listed companies across 36 countries were considered for the study. From India, 628 listed companies participated in an online study. The study was based on the presence of women in companies' board globally.

Key results of study on '**Women On Board 2020**':

- Norway topped the list with 40.72% women on board
- Around 54% of employees in Asia and 39% in India are women
- India ranked 12th in the world in women member presence on board
- Among 628 listed companies from India, 55% companies were having women directors

## WhatsApp launches "WhatsApp Coronavirus Information Hub"

"**WhatsApp Coronavirus Information Hub**" has been launched globally by **WhatsApp** in partnership with the World Health Organization (**WHO**), United Nations Children's Fund (**UNICEF**), and United Nations Development Programme (**UNDP**). The WhatsApp Coronavirus Information Hub aims to provide simple, actionable guidance for health workers, educators, community leaders, nonprofits, local governments and local businesses that depends on WhatsApp for communication. It will also work to reduce the spread of rumors and connect with accurate health information.

**WhatsApp** has announced the **donation** of **\$1 million** to the **International Fact-Checking Network** for coronavirus facts alliance. The donation aims to support the fact-checking of the #CoronaVirusFacts Alliance, which spans more than 100 local organizations all over the world.

## Top tech giants to jointly fight against COVID-19 misinformation

The **top tech giants** of the world will jointly **fight** against the **fake news** and **misinformation** related to **COVID-19** on their platforms. The top giants which have announced a fight against the fake news includes **Facebook**, **Google**, **LinkedIn**, **Microsoft**, **Reddit**, **Twitter** and **YouTube**. These companies are working closely to have a check on the fake news and misinformation related to COVID-19.

These companies are jointly combating fraud and misinformation about the virus as well as elevating authoritative content on their platforms. They are also focusing on sharing the critical updates in coordination with government healthcare agencies around the world.

## National Affairs

- The **Government of India** has approved the proposal of setting up of **National Technical Textiles Mission** for a period of **4 years** from 2020-21 to 2023-24, with an outlay of **Rs. 1480 crores**.
- Four convicts in **Nirbhaya gangrape** and **murder** case Pawan Gupta, Vinay Sharma, Akshay Kumar and Mukesh Kumar were **hanged** to death at Tihar jail in Delhi.
- Former Chief Justice of India **Ranjan Gogoi** took oath as a nominated member of **Rajya Sabha**.
- **Indian Navy** has established a **Quarantine Camp** at **INS Vishwakarma** in Eastern Naval Command (**ENC**) for Indian nationals being evacuated from COVID-19 affected countries.
- The **Supreme court of India** bench headed by **Justice D Y Chandrachud** has cleared **permanent commission** for **women officers** in the Indian Navy.
- **Innovate for Accessible India campaign** has been launched jointly by **Microsoft India** and **NASSCOM** Foundation to empower **people with disabilities**.
- **Government of India** pledged **\$10 million** toward a **Covid-19 emergency fund**.
- The Union Cabinet has approved a **4% hike** in **dearness allowance** (DA) for **central government employees** and **Dearness Relief** (DR) to pensioners with effect from **January 1, 2020**. This is over the existing rate of 17 per cent of the Basic Pay/Pension.

## International Affairs

- The **Olympic Flame** was handed over to **Tokyo 2020 organizers** after the Greece leg of torch relay suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- To ensure sick leave to Americans workers who fall ill from the new coronavirus, US President **Donald Trump** has signed a **\$100-billion** emergency aid package to strengthen the protective measures against the pandemic **caused by COVID-19**.
- **Iraqi** President Barham Salih has appointed **Adnan al-Zurfi** as the country's new **prime minister**.
- The **United States** has started **phase one** of the clinical **Human trial of an investigational vaccine**, designed to protect against the coronavirus disease.
- The **Philippines** has become the **first country** of the world to suspend all **financial markets** in response to the coronavirus pandemic.
- **Niue** has become the **world's first** whole country recognised as a '**Dark Sky Place**' by the International Dark-Sky Association (IDA).

### States in the News

- **Kamal Nath** has **resigned** as the **Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh**.
- The **Kerala** government has launched a mass handwashing campaign named '**break the chain**' to combat **coronavirus**.
- Union Minister of State for Shipping **Mansukh Mandaviya** has launched '**Ropax**' passenger ferry service between **Mumbai** and **Mandwa, Maharashtra**.
- The traditional harvest festival "**Phool Dei**" which is celebrated on the first day of Chaitra or in mid-March (according to Gregorian calendar), was celebrated in **Uttarakhand**.
- **Manipur** has announced schemes namely '**Chief Minister's Akhannaba Sanaroising gi Tengbang (CMAT)**' and **Chief Minister Artist Sing gi Tengbang (CMAT)**' scheme for the welfare of sportspersons and artists of the State.

### Agreements/MoUs Signed

- **Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority** and **Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium** has signed an MoU the development of **agriculture** and allied sectors as well as its exports for bringing better value to the stakeholders.
- **DBS Bank India** has teamed-up with **Bharti AXA** to launch a complimentary **insurance plan** which will cover all medical conditions, including **Covid-19**.
- **IIT Kanpur** and **L&T Technology Services** have collaborated to carry out joint research in **industrial and infrastructure cybersecurity**.
- **Manikaran Power Ltd** has become the **first member** of India's first gas trading platform which is called the **Indian Gas Exchange (IGX)**.
- The **Central Reserve Police Force** has inked a deal with **Aditya Mehta Foundation (NGO)** to train its troops who lost their limbs in operations, in various skills including **cyber operations, artificial intelligence and para-sports**.
- **Oil India Limited** has inked the **Crude Oil Sales Agreement (COSA)** with **Numaligarh Refinery** for sale and purchase of crude oil.

### Banking/Economy/Business News

- **Paytm Payments Bank Ltd** has partnered with **Visa** to issue **Visa debit cards**.
- **Flipkart** has tied up with **Aegon Life Insurance** to sell comprehensive insurance solutions for customers who are seeking instant digital policies with a sum assured of up to **Rs 10 lakh**.

- **S&P Global Ratings** has reduced **India's** economic growth forecast to **5.2%** for financial year **2020**.
- **Moody's** has lowered growth projections for **India** for financial year **2020** to **5.3%**.
- **Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)** has lowered **growth projections** for **India** for financial year **2020** to **5.1%**.

### Appointments/Resignations

- **Arundhati Bhattacharya** has submitted her **resignation** from **Crisil board** as she was serving as the independent director of the **Crisil**.
- **A. Ajay Kumar** has been appointed as the next **High Commissioner of India** to the **Republic of Uganda**.
- **Google Cloud India** has appointed **Karan Bajwa** as its new **Managing Director**.
- **Rajiv Bajaj** has been reappointed as **MD & CEO** of **Bajaj Auto**.
- **Gita Piramal** has been appointed as the **independent director** of **Bajaj Auto**.
- **Ravinder Singh Dhillon** has been appointed as **Chairman and Managing Director** of **Power Finance Corporation (PFC)**.
- The **Election Commission of India (ECI)** has appointed **Hirdesh Kumar** as the **Chief Electoral Officer (CEO)** of the Union Territory **Jammu and Kashmir**.
- The Central Government has nominated **Debasish Panda** as a **Director** on the **Central Board of Reserve Bank of India**.
- **Prashant Kumar** has been appointed as **Chief Executive and Managing Director** of the **Yes Bank**.

### Summit and Conference

- The **7th World Cities Summit** will be held in **Singapore** with a theme "**Livable and Sustainable Cities: Adapting to a Disrupted World**".

**TEST SERIES**

**Bilingual**

**Video Solutions**



# RBI ASSISTANT

## MAINS

**25 Total Tests | eBooks**



### Awards & Rewards

- **Arfa Khanum Sherwani** of "The Wire" and Bengaluru-based freelancer **Rohini Mohan** have been jointly awarded **Chameli Devi Jain Award for outstanding woman journalist**.

### Sports News

- **Vrinda Rathi** and **Janani Narayanan** have been named in the **International Panel of ICC Development Umpires**.
- The **French Open tennis tournament** has been **postponed** by the French Tennis Federation due to the coronavirus pandemic.
- **ATK Football Club (FC)** defeated Chennaiyin FC in the finals by 3-1 to win the **ISL (Indian Super League)** trophy.
- **Viktor Axelsen** of Denmark defeated Chinese Taipei's Chou Tien-chen by 21-13, 21-14 to win the men's singles title of **All England Championship**.
- **Tai Tzu Ying** of Chinese Taipei defeated Chinese Chen Yu Fei by 21-19, 21-15 to win the women's singles title of **All England Championship**.
- Indian paddler **Achanta Sharath Kamal** defeated Marcos Freitas by 4-2 in the final to win the **ITTF Challenger Plus Oman Open**.
- The **Ordnance Factories' Day** is observed on the **18th of March** every year.

### Books and Authors

- The book titled "**My Encounters in Parliament**" authored by **Bhalchandra Mungekar** was released.
- The book titled "**Invincible: A Tribute to Manohar Parrikar**" has been authored by **Tarun Vijay**.
- The book titled "**An Extraordinary Life: A biography of Manohar Parrikar**" is co-authored by veteran journalists **Sadguru Patil** and **Mayabhushan Nagvenkar**.

### Defence News

- The **Ministry of Defence** has signed the **capital acquisition contract** of worth **Rs 880 crore** with **Israel Weapons Industries** for the procurement of **Negev 7.62 X 51 mm** Light Machine Guns.
- The **Defence Acquisition Council (DAC)** has approved the procurement of **83 advanced Mk1A version of indigenous Tejas fighter aircrafts** for **Indian Air Force**.
- The **Defence Acquisition Council** has approved the acquisition of **indigenous defence equipments** worth **Rs 1,300 crore**.

### Important Days

- **International Nowruz Day** is being celebrated globally on **21 March** every year.
- **World Poetry Day** is observed globally on **21 March** every year to support linguistic diversity through poetic expression and to offer endangered languages the opportunity to be heard within their communities.
- **World Down Syndrome Day** is observed every year on **21 March**. The **theme** of World Down Syndrome Day 2020 is "**We Decide**".
- The **International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination** is observed globally on **21 March** every year. International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination 2020 is focused on the midterm review of the "**International Decade for People of African Descent**".
- **International Day of Forests** is celebrated every year on **21 March** to raise awareness of the importance of all types of forests. The **theme** for International Day of Forests 2020: **Forests and Biodiversity**.
- **International Day of Happiness** was celebrated on **20th March** with theme '**Happiness For All, Together**'.
- **Global Recycling Day** was observed on **18th March** with the theme "**Recycling Heroes**".
- **India** observes **National Vaccination Day** every year on **16th March**. The day is also known as **National Immunization Day**.
- **World Consumer Rights Day** was celebrated globally on **March 15** with the theme "**The Sustainable Consumer**".

### Science and Technology

- A starch-based '**hemostat**' material which concentrates the natural clotting factors in blood that are critical for stopping the blood flow, has been developed by the **Institute of Nano Science and Technology (INST)**.

### Obituaries

- Former world champion **boxer Roger Mayweather** passed away.
- Noted Marathi **Actor Jairam Kulkarani** passed away.
- Bollywood actor **Imtiaz Khan** passed away.
- Veteran **journalist** and former Rajya Sabha member **Patil Puttappa** passed away.
- Veteran **poet** and Malayalam scholar **Puthussery Ramachandran** passed away.

### Miscellaneous News

- **Indian Railways** has planned to electrify a total of **28,810 km** of broad gauge route by **December 2023**.
- World's first commercial flying car named '**PAL-V Liberty (Personal Air-Land Vehicle)**' will be developed in **Gujarat, India**.
- The **Mumbai Central station** is going to be renamed as **Nana Shankarseth Mumbai Central railway station**.
- **Microsoft's Bing** team has launched a web portal "**bing.com/covid**" to track the spread of **COVID-19** worldwide.

### Static Takeaways

- Lieutenant (Lt) Governors of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K): Girish Chandra Murmu.
- Headquarters of Power Finance Corporation: New Delhi.
- Chairman of Bajaj Auto: Rahul Bajaj.
- Union Minister of External Affairs: Subrahmanyam Jaishankar.
- President of Uganda: Yoweri Museveni; Capital: Kampala; Currency: Ugandan shilling.
- Chairman of Crisil Board: John Berisford.
- Managing Director and CEO of CRISIL: Ashu Suyash.
- Headquarters of CRPF: New Delhi; Founded: 27 July 1939.
- MD and CEO of India Energy Exchange: Rajiv Srivastava.
- CEO of L&T Technology Services (LTTS): Dr Keshab Panda.
- MD & CEO of Bharti Axa: Sanjeev Srinivasan.
- Niue Capital: Alofi; Currency of Niue: New Zealand dollar.
- Capital of Philippines: Manila; Currency: Philippine Peso.
- Currency of Iraq: Iraqi dinar; Capital: Baghdad.
- Capital of USA: Washington, D.C.; Currency: US Dollar.
- Japan Capital: Tokyo; Currency: Japanese yen; PM of Japan: Shinzo Abe.
- Headquarters of WHO: Geneva, Switzerland; Director general of WHO: Tedros Adhanom.
- Administrator of United Nations Development Programme: Achim Steiner.
- Executive Director of UNICEF: Henrietta H. Fore.
- SAARC founded: 8 December 1985; Headquarters: Kathmandu, Nepal.
- Members countries of SAARC: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.
- Chief Executive Officer of Microsoft: Satya Nadella.
- Microsoft Founded: April 4, 1975; Headquarters: Washington, United States.

- Chairman of NASSCOM: Keshav Muruges; President: Debjani Ghosh.
- Chief of Naval Staff: Admiral Karambir Singh.
- Chairman of Rajya Sabha: Venkaiah Naidu.
- RBI 25th Governor: Shaktikant Das; Headquarters: Mumbai; Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata.
- MD & CEO of Paytm Payments Bank Ltd: Satish Kumar Gupta.
- Chairperson of Media Foundation: Harish Khare.
- Currency of Singapore: Singapore dollar.
- Chief of the Air Staff: Air Chief Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria.
- RBI 25th Governor: Shaktikant Das; Headquarters: Mumbai; Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata.
- Governor of Manipur: Najma Heptulla.
- Governor of Uttarakhand: Baby Rani Maurya.
- Chief Minister of Maharashtra: Uddhav Thackeray; Governor: Bhagat Singh Koshyari.
- Chief Minister of Kerala: Pinarayi Vijayan
- Governor of Kerala: Arif Mohammed Khan.
- Periyar National Park is a beautiful place, located in the Idukki & Quilon districts of the state of Kerala.
- Director-General & Chairman of Ordnance Factories: Hari Mohan.
- Headquarters of Ordnance Factory Board: Kolkata, West Bengal.
- Secretary General of the United Nations: Antonio Guterres.
- Director General of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO): Audrey Azoulay.
- Director of Institute of Nano Science and Technology: Amitava Patra.
- Chief Executive Officer of Microsoft: Satya Nadella.
- Microsoft Founded: April 4, 1975; Headquarters of Microsoft: Washington, United States.
- Chief Minister of Maharashtra: Uddhav Thackeray; Governor: Bhagat Singh Koshyari.
- Chief Minister of Gujarat: Vijay Rupani; Governor of Gujarat: Acharya Dev Vrat.
- Union Minister of Ministry of Railways: Piyush Goyal.

